

1354 E. Madison Park #3  
Chicago, IL 60615  
May 13, 1999

5329 '99 MAY 21 P2:04

Commissioner Jane Henney  
Parklawn Building, Rm. 14-71  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Commissioner Henney,

I am writing in support of the petition, filed recently by the Center for Science in the Public Interest, asking the Food and Drug Administration to ban the use of medically useful antibiotics in animal feed because of concerns that bacterial resistance will develop.

I am trained as an entomologist and versed in the development of resistance to insecticides by insect pests; this is a similar situation, except that bacteria have shorter generation times, allowing resistance to develop even more quickly. Widespread use of antibiotics in animal feed will undoubtedly heighten the likelihood that resistant strains will arise. However, instead of our having to struggle to find new, effective insecticides, we will have to search for new antibiotics—and instead of the health of farm crops, the health of individual Americans will hang in the balance. I really do not think that increased rate of growth in livestock is worth taking this kind of risk.

Thank you for your kind consideration of these concerns.

Sincerely,

*Stephanie O. Nevins*  
Stephanie O. Nevins

99P-0485

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